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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

**Cherry in Port**  
TV coach visits namesake restaurant  
Page 3

**Showboat sinks**  
Economy scuttles theatre  
Page 9

**You're invited**  
Back to Church wants you  
page 6

**Hospital update**  
Ontario Health Minister weighs in  
Page 11

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# INPORT NEWS



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■ **AGRICULTURE:** About 5,000 people attended event

## All fair in Wainfleet

ALLAN BENNER  
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — "It was a great fair — excellent results!" said David Wyatt, Wainfleet Agricultural Society president.

"We had a lot of people out. We're thinking right now that close to 5,000 came out in spite of last Saturday's wet morning."

Despite the pouring rain that morning, Wyatt said all the events "went off without a hitch."

"We had a lot of people comment how great the fair was, run this year and the amount of entertainment and how entertaining everything was."

The fair's theme this year was "200 years of agriculture roots," tying the event in with

the bicentennial of the War of 1812.

That theme, Wyatt added, "worked out really well" with many displays and activities dedicated to the battles fought in Niagara.

He was also impressed with the parade that rolled through the township to kickoff the annual event, as well as the talent of the community's children who competed in the Wainfleet Idol.

"It was just one of those years," he said.

There were also a few unusual demonstrations set up during the fair, including a display of rabbits hopping along a course of miniature obstacles.

see **WAINFLEET FAIR** | page 2



ALLAN BENNER In Port News Staff

Two-year-old Ewan Reiles, with Yvan Joly, looked a little uneasy about the horse he met at the Wainfleet Fall Fair over the weekend.

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# upfront

## ■ WAINFLEET FAIR

# Animals showcased

FROM PAGE 1

Janine Van Oostrom was looking at YouTube videos of horse jumping, when she stumbled across a video of rabbits jumping instead. Just like equestrian horses, the rabbits are led around a much smaller obstacle course of jumps.

The Fenwick resident was intrigued.

"I decided to try it myself," and her own rabbit Mickey seemed to be a natural at it.

Kayla Werkman also added her bunny Oreo to the display. She said she started stacking books and was impressed with how well the rabbit managed to hop over them.

Wynan said he was also very impressed with the dozens of volunteers who helped out during the event, as well as the committee members — including 15 year old Robbie Sherwood, one of the youngest committee members.

Sherwood has been show-

ing off his poultry during the event since he was eight years old. He was at the poultry displays again during this years event, ensuring the birds in his care were well taken care of.

"I got two champion pigeons. I got a lot of stuff," the Lakeshore Catholic High School student added, referring to the ribbons the 12 animals he entered won.

*allan.benner@sunmedia.ca*



Janine Van Oostrom and Mickey show off just how well rabbits can hop at the Wainfleet Fall Fair.



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

Robbie Sherwood holds a week-old duckling, one of a dozen animals he entered into the Wainfleet Fall Fair.



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

Nate Katch was one of several talented young people who performed in the Wainfleet Idol competition during the Wainfleet Fall Fair.

# portraits

■ DON CHERRY: CBC commentator stops at restaurant bearing his name

# Hockey icon stops in Port

DAVE JOHNSON  
InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — Canadian hockey icon Don Cherry paid a visit to the lakeside city last Friday, visiting the restaurant bearing his name at the city's marina.

Rick Cole, general manager of Don Cherry's Sports Grill, said the star of Coach's Corner on CBC's Hockey Night in Canada called the restaurant around 10:45 a.m. Friday and told them he was coming for lunch.

Cole called all the restaurant staff and made calls to people throughout the night to see the always well-dressed man.

As soon as Cherry arrived, the restaurant filled up and people started to chat with

and have their photos taken with him, and had him sign numerous items.

"I have to say, and I am not kidding, this is the most busy day I've ever had," Cherry said as he passed walls filled with local sports memorabilia.

Visiting the restaurants that bear his name is something the former Boston Bruins coach likes to do.

And while at the Port Colborne location, at Sugarloaf Harbour Marina, Cherry said he would be ordering fish and chips off the menu.

"You come to Port Colborne, you have to try the fish and chips," he said.

While looking forward to

having lunch, Cherry was also looking forward to a visit from his former Barrie Flyers teammate, Jim Robertson. The two were on the 1953 Memorial Cup winning team.

Asked about the current NHL lockout, he believed it would last between three weeks and a month.

"I'm not too happy with the players that are going over to Europe to play. They're taking away jobs from players over there that count on the money ... they're hurting a lot of good people."

He said NHLers playing in Europe don't need the money and even those that go to play for free are still taking other jobs.

"They should be over here fighting ... standing behind the union."



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Colin Gillespie and his three-year-old son Reid pose with Don Cherry.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services firefighters Doug Steers, left, and Brandon Chevalier, right, pose with Don Cherry inside Don Cherry's Sports Grill. The Coach's Corner commentator stopped in the Port Colborne restaurant for lunch last Friday.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Nine-year-old Thomas Moore and his mother Lindsay O'Neill watch as Don Cherry signs an autograph inside Don Cherry's Sports Grill.

# IMPORT NEWS

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## ourview

### Gutless duo unmasked in flag flap

**W**ho said this? "The national flag of Canada is a symbol of honour, pride and Canadian identity." And who said this? "As Canadians from coast to coast to celebrate our great country's 145th birthday, let us also celebrate the values for which Canada has become known around the world."

Nobler sentiments, yes. Still don't know who uttered those fine words.

Well, the first quotation was supplied by no less than Prime Minister Stephen Harper, on Flag Day, in February of this year.

The second quotation comes to us from NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair, on Canada Day. In his stirring statement, Mulcair declared he was "very proud" to be Canadian, and that the rest of us should be, too.

It's odd, however. When it's safe to do so, both Harper and Mulcair insist they are brimming with pride about all things Canadian. Both men make speeches, every single day, flanked by Canadian flags. Both men profess to be "proud" of Canada. Both are members of the Privy Council, no less, which means that the flag will be flown at half-mast on the unhappy day that they slip this mortal coil.

But you'd never know Messrs. Harper and Mulcair were "proud" Canadians this week, as both sullenly slumped into their armchairs on the floor of the House of Commons, like worms. Both refused to disapprove of the Parti Québécois' decision to remove the Maple Leaf flag from ceremonies at Québec's National Assembly.

When reporters attempted to question Harper and Mulcair about the PQ's move, however, they got precisely nowhere. Neither "leader" would say much of anything.

When this flag story broke, no one was entirely surprised by the NDP's spinelessness. They've got a parliamentary caucus overflowing with crypto-separatists. And, when a Conservative MP brought forth a laudable bill to protect Canadians' right to fly the flag, the NDP — Mulcair included — cheerfully voted against it. But the Conservatives? The Conservatives regularly wrap themselves in the flag. The aforementioned Mr. Mulcair said this about the bill: "(We need) to ensure that Canadians have clear certainty, that if they wish to show pride in their country — to display the Canadian flag — they are free to do so."

That was then, this is now, one assumes. Either way, the Conservatives and the NDP look gutless. They look like cowards.

The final word goes, then, to Stephane Dion, an unashamed patriot and one of the best prime ministers we never had.

"It's unacceptable," said the Liberal MP. At least one party was still speaking for Canada.

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## COLUMN

# I've been thinking about giving

REV. STEVEN DAVIS  
Central United Church

**I**spect that there are a lot of people who wonder whether they're of importance in the world; whether they can make any difference. I suppose we all feel that way sometimes. After all, the universe is a pretty big place, and, in the grand scheme of things, we're pretty small. When we start to think ourselves in relationship to God, perhaps that can seem even more overwhelming. After all, if (on the surface) we seem to be of little significance compared to the vastness of the universe, how important can we possibly be when compared to the one who created the universe? Do we make a difference? Can we make a difference? Yes. It doesn't take a lot to make a difference. It just takes a willingness to give what we can.

The Bible tells us the following story: "As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. 'Truly I tell you,' he said, 'this poor widow

has put in more than all the others. All these people give their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.'

The poor widow could perhaps have been excused if she had decided to give nothing. After all, in the grand scheme of things - and especially compared to what the rich had given - she hadn't really given very much. It would have been understandable if she had decided that her gift was of no importance and she had just walked away. But what Jesus was concerned about wasn't how much the poor widow gave - it was whether she gave abundantly out of what she had. "Two very small copper coins" were a very big gift for a woman who had very little.

This isn't really about money. Jesus is reminding us that, as insignificant as we may sometimes feel, we are of tremendous value - if we're willing to do what we can with what we have to make the world (or at least our very small part of it) just a little bit better. And that we don't talk about making sacrifices to do something of value.

My daughter recently got her hair cut. Now, that may not seem like too big a thing. I get my hair cut about

every six weeks or so. But for her, it was a big thing. A very big thing. She's been growing her hair since she was a baby. She had never really had it cut. She's 8 now, and a while ago she came up with her own idea. She wanted to have it cut off, and she wanted to donate it to an organization that made wigs for children with cancer and other diseases that cause them to lose their hair. We told her that since she is 8, she was old enough to make her own decision about her own hair, and that was her decision. She held it to steadfastly. Indeed, once the appointment was made, she became more and more excited about it, and now - it's done. When I saw her the next morning, I barely recognized her. (OK, I recognized her. I just pretended not to.) Our hairdresser measured her hair as 23 inches from root to tip, and when all was said and done, she managed to get 12 inches of hair to donate. That's amazing. And it's just hair. It didn't cost anything of great value, no money, no time, but it's going to help make a child's life better.

Really. It does take much to be of huge importance to others and to be a faithful servant of God.

## COLUMN

# I've been thinking about dissatisfaction

REV. GORD ABRAHAM  
Port Colborne Baptist Church

**A**re you dissatisfied with your marriage? Your wife or husband just isn't living up to what you expected them to be when you first met and married.

Are you dissatisfied with your job, your house, car, etc.?

We think that the dissatisfaction we experience and the satisfaction we crave in any or all of these areas of our lives will only be dealt with by someone else giving me what I need or want.

"If only they would do this then I would be satisfied." "If only it would work out the way I want it to, then I would be satisfied!"

We are, as the old saying goes, "barking up the wrong tree!" We are looking for this sense of satisfaction in outside sources, experiencing it as the focus and with God out of the picture.

Many also use God as a supplier of

goods and services to get the satisfaction they want. To quote Mick Jagger, "I can't get no satisfaction!"

In the Bible, God called the people of old, who were doing the same, to get out of this self-focused search for satisfaction and find true satisfaction in Him alone. He spoke through His Prophet, Jeremiah, to show them the emptiness of their own condition of dissatisfaction and their empty sources of satisfaction.

Jeremiah used a water cistern, as his image, to represent the lives and desires of the people. A cistern was a water storage container made of earthen materials (not like our plastics and synthetics of today). Hear what God says through the prophet. "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water."

What is being said here? If they turn to man, it becomes nothing more than a useless, leaky container. God is telling them that their

sources of satisfaction are nothing more than leaky containers needing constantly to be refilled.

The listeners have committed 2 sins. Imagine the name of someone saying people have sinned? How politically incorrect is that! Shame on you Prophet! Shame on you God! (Please note I say the word 3 statements with "tongue in cheek" check!)

God says people are and will continue to be dissatisfied because they have forsaken God. Today, many see God as a "go to guy when in trouble but any other time he is either their punching bag for their personal problems, the ills of society or a deity who should be unseen and unheard unless called for. I find it strange that many deny God until it's time to blame someone for the problems and then God conveniently becomes real and gets the blame for not acting on behalf of those who don't want him to exist."

see I'VE BEEN THINKING | page 5

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## ■ I'VE BEEN THINKING

# We find all we are and all we need in Christ

## FROM PAGE 4

Is it any wonder that reports tell us we are seeing more and more angry teens and children who are depressed and filled with anxiety because their parents are off trying to find themselves!

Is it any wonder that we are dissatisfied when we repect God's Kingship in our lives or give God tokens of our love and respect?

King Jesus calls us to himself for the satisfaction that only he can supply. Jeremiah calls God the "fountain of living waters." Jesus in the Gospels calls himself the One who gives peace and rest and satisfaction.

The only path to satisfaction from dissatisfaction before people is the choice to acknowledge their own self-will. This self-will is putting me at the centre and in charge of my life while God is put to the side, on call. This, God says, is sin and must be confessed as sin before God. Confessing King Jesus as only sin-bearer and master and authority then follows. With this invitation to have King Jesus at the

centre of our lives we are enabled to have the person and resources to find a life that satisfies. No longer do we have to chase after everything to find our happiness or to find ourselves.

We find all we are and need in Jesus Christ alone. By faith we entrust our lives present and our lives future into his hands. We bow down before Him and call Him our Master and King. That is the only then will there be any satisfaction.

I know this is exclusive! I know this is right! I know this because I had to do this and when I did there came to my life a deep peace and satisfaction that nothing else in life could supply.

Listen to Jesus and take up his invitation. "Jesus said, 'Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.' (Matthew's Gospel of Jesus 11:28-30 NLT)

## ■ STRIKING SUNSET



The sky lit up over a Wainfleet farmer's field last Saturday night.

DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

## The Amazing Benefits of Healthy Fats

We have learned so much these past few years, about the "beneficial" fats in our diet. Medium-Chain Triglycerides (MCT) oils, made from coconut and palm kernel oil, are a special class of fats that are handled by the body in a different way than most fats. Most fats are long-chain triglycerides which are very difficult to process, so your body stores them in fat cells.

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the healing effects of MCT oil are quite beneficial as MCTs promote better intestinal health by neutralizing microorganisms that can cause chronic inflammation.

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■ INVITES: Ministers take to Port Farmers' Market

# People invited to go to Back to Church Sunday

DAVE JOHNSON  
InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — Rev. Thomas Arth and Rev. Robert Hurkmans were looking to draw attention to themselves last Friday morning as they wandered Port Colborne's Farmers' Market in church clothing with origins in the 1500s.

Arth, from First Evangelical Lutheran Church, and Hurkmans, from St. James and St. Brendan Anglican Church, wanted people to stop and take little time to go to church. Back to Church Sunday invitation cards from them, or stop and talk to them.

The Back to Church Sunday is an initiative that started in England in 2004 and has since spread to countries around the world, including Canada. The Anglican Church of Canada has been involved since 2009. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada has been involved since 2011.

The challenge is to double the number of worshippers in church congregations in a day by inviting friends, family, anyone really.

"The fact we're here in clothing from the 1500s doesn't earn you'll encounter something from the 1500s in church," said Hurkmans.

Arth said when he and Hurkmans preach, they bring it in to today and give it relevance to today's world.

"We give a connection to

the past, the present and the future," Arth said.

Hurkmans said the churches are striving to be more progressive, trying new things and be a blend of old and new.

"In a world where things are constantly changing how often do you come across an institution that is 2,000 years old? I think there's an appeal to that. People long for a sense of connectedness to a story that is bigger and deeper than some of the more fleeting stories that occupy our lives today," Hurkmans said.

Arth said Back to Church Sunday is spreading across the world and that its emphasis is on making the invitation, not about getting a "yes."

"Whether people say yes is up to God. Statistics say many people would come to church if they were invited. To pick up and go to a church you've never been to is intimidating. We've been asking our people to think about who they'd want to invite to church," he said.

Arth said another reason he and Hurkmans were dressed up and at the market, in addition to drawing attention, was to set an example for their congregations.

Back to Church Sunday takes place Sunday, Sept. 30 at both First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 688 Elm St., at 10:30 a.m. and at St. James and St. Brendan Anglican Church at either 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Rev. Robert Hurkmans, left, of St. James and St. Brendan Anglican Church, and Rev. Thomas Arth, right, of First Evangelical Lutheran Church, were inviting people Back to Church Sunday at the Farmer's Market last week.

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■ HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR: Eva Olsson urges teens to accept others as equals

# 'Hate ... murdered my family'

SARAH FERGUSON  
InPort News Staff

**POR T COLBORNE** — Eighty-seven-year-old Holocaust survivor Eva Olsson is imploring younger generations to continue retelling her story of atrocities of war.

"I need your help," she told 350 students at Port Colborne High School last week.

"I need you to help me so that the generation that follows will know the truth," she said.

Olsson was born Oct. 28,

1924, in Hungary and was one of six children in a poor but happy family.

Everything changed on May 15, 1944, when she was taken away in boxcars to Auschwitz-Birkenau — a concentration camp established in Adolf Hitler's attempt to exterminate all Jews in Europe.

Olsson remembers a grueling 7-km train to a railway station to board boxcars into which she and her family were packed with hundreds of people.

They were given two pails

— one filled with drinking water and one bucket to dispose of human waste.

They thought they were going to Germany to work in a brick factory, but after "four days of hell standing day and night," Olsson realized she knew something was terribly wrong.

She arrived at the concentration camp on May 19. The air was filled with a heavy black smoke and as families entered the camp, men were separated from women and children. The stronger individuals were put to work but

the weaker individuals were murdered.

"People were forced in gas chambers screaming and moaning. After 20 minutes, it was silent."

Before she could blink, Olsson said, her mother, her father and most of her siblings disappeared never to be seen again.

For Olsson, it was the beginning of a nightmare that wouldn't end until she and her younger sister were liberated by British soldiers just hours before prisoners were to be executed by Nazi

soldiers on April 15, 1945.

Olsson remained silent on the holocaust for more than 50 years, but she began speaking about her experience over the past decade to share her message about bullying and injustice. Her Holocaust experiences illustrate the power of hate and the importance of standing up against intolerance.

Olsson wants to share her message for as long as she can. She said she hopes those who have listened to her speak will share her story so history doesn't repeat

itself.

When bullying happens, people need to stand up and stop it, said Olsson, adding that whether a person is a bystander or a bully, neither is innocent.

"Hitler could not have done what he did without the bystanders in Europe. That's how he got away with it," she said.

"Hate is what murdered my family," said Olsson, adding "acceptance is how we achieve peace."

*sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca*

## RECIPE

for the  
month  
OCTOBER

### INGREDIENTS

1 1/2 cup butter at room temperature  
1 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar  
2 eggs  
1/4 tsp vanilla  
1/2 teaspoon lemon juice  
1 cup maple syrup  
\*Apple Valley Maple Syrup  
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1 cup walnut halves  
Optional - 1/2 cup currants  
or raisins

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#### Walnut Butter Tarts

1. Blend together the butter and brown sugar.  
2. Beat the eggs lightly and stir into the butter and brown sugar and add the maple syrup. (\*You can substitute Corn syrup for all or part of the Maple syrup), add vanilla & raisins or currants if using.

Fill tart shells about two thirds full. Bake at 375° for 15 to 20 minutes or until pastry is golden. The filling in these tarts is runny.

\*Do not over bake or the filling will firm up. Let tarts set in the tin for about 3 minutes.

Remove carefully and cool on racks. This recipe makes about twenty 3 inch tarts.

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SARAH FERGUSON Staff Photo

Holocaust survivor Eva Olsson, 87, speaks to Port Colborne High School students about standing up against intolerance.

### EVA'S MISSION

- Olsson has spoken to more than one million people over the past decade and has speaking engagements that stretch well beyond her 90th birthday.
- Her mission is to end intolerance and bullying so that no one ever has to experience what millions of people endured during the Second World War.
- There were thousands of concentration camps established during the Nazi regime in Germany, Poland, Latvia, Estonia, Austria, France, Czech Republic and the Netherlands.
- Major concentration camps include Bergen-Belsen and Dachau in Germany.
- About seven million people were murdered during the Holocaust. About two million lives were lost at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

■ THEATRE: Stage company comes to an end after 26 years

# Economy sinks Showboat

ANGUS SCOTT  
InPort News Staff

**POR T CO LBORE** — After staying afloat 26 years, Showboat Festival Theatre has been sunk by a stormy economy.

Showboat announced this week that it is ceasing operations, ending its summer theatre productions at Roselawn.

"After several difficult years weathering the economic storm, the board is taking the prudent action to discontinue its professional summer theatre while it is still able to meet all of its obligations," says a news release from Showboat's seven-member board of directors.

"We've weathered three bad years and we just do not have the resources to go forward," executive director Sue Patterson said. "While there was a slight increase in atten-

dance this year, it still was not enough."

James Brennan, Showboat's treasurer, told *InPort News* the theatre has been "living on a shoestring budget" for years.

The current state of the economy, fewer American patrons due to border issues and changing demographics in Port Colborne have all combined to drive down audiences.

"We are not unlike a lot of other summer theatres," he said, noting that several members of the summer theatre association have folded in recent years.

"We have never run a deficit and our fear was we were going to," he said. "And the last thing we wanted was to owe people money, especially in our own community. We can go out with our heads held high, having provided 26 fabulous years of wonderful



theatre in Port Colborne."

Brennan said the 2012 season did see improved ticket sales, but the numbers still remained low, filling roughly 60% of the Roselawn Centre's seats. The 2011 season's attendance was the worst in years.

"There were shows (in 2011) with 30 or 40 people and that's

no good for anybody, not the audience or the actors," he said.

Showboat's artistic director, Thom Currie, acknowledged the board faced a tough decision.

"Showboat's been on the edge for years, because it is theatre," said Currie, whose

contract with Showboat expired this month. "I understand why they made the decision. Do I agree? No. I worry about Port Colborne and the Roselawn Centre, about what's going to go into that space. I also worry about the patrons who have been coming for 25, 26 years and about the impact this will have on the business community of Port Colborne."

Showboat is a stand-alone corporation with its own board of directors. It was a tenant at the city-owned Roselawn Centre for the Arts, which has its own board.

"We are making the prudent decision now while we can still cover all our liabilities and make refunds on all 2013 subscriptions," said Brennan.

The board thanked its patrons for their years of support as well as the donors and sponsors.

## BY THE NUMBERS

### 26

Years Showboat Festival Theatre has offered summer theatre in Port Colborne

### 12,000

Seasonal seating capacity at Showboat Festival Theatre

### 6,600

Tickets sold in 2012

### 5,700

Tickets sold in 2011

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■ **BRIDGES:** Community health centre offers program

# Take Charge of chronic health problems

DAVE JOHNSON  
InPort News Staff

## PORT COLBORNE

— Bridges Community Health Centre wants people with chronic health conditions to take charge of their lives through a six-week program being offered, said health promoter Lori Kleinsmith.

She said the Take Charge program is for people living with any type of chronic condition like arthritis, anxiety, diabetes and depression.

"It's such a great program. We have a few people signed up right now, but there's room for 10 to 15."

The program, being run by Kleinsmith and Bridges' dietitian Maureen Gall, is designed to teach some basic self-management skills to help them in their daily lives.

"People are only at their doctor's office for 15 or 20 minutes ... it's up to the them to really deal with any health problem they may have on a day-to-day basis to the best of their ability. Some people can really struggle."

Kleinsmith said it's hard for some with chronic conditions to get motivated and very easy to get stuck in a rut.

"What we try to offer is a variety of different tools or strategies ... things like physical activity, eating better, stress management, breathing exercises and better communication. We go in-depth on any one topic, it's more of an overview."

Bridges has programs that go more in-depth in the various areas and Take Charge, said Kleinsmith, is a bridge between the two.

Goals are set each week during the program and the participants work toward those goals, which help build confidence and get them back on track, she said.

"Sometimes that's all it takes, getting people on track. You can see the progression from week to week in people."

The program, run in a group setting, has run twice already and Kleinsmith said

at the end of it participants are already starting to think more about how to take care of themselves.

Take Charge, open to anyone in the area, starts Thursday, Oct. 18 and runs from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. each Thursday afterwards for six weeks at Bridges, 177 King St.

For more information contact Lori Kleinsmith at 289-479-5017 ext. 2445.

# Bridges

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■ **JUMPING BUNNY**



ALLAN BENNER Staff photo  
Kayla Werkman, 12, leads her rabbit Oreo over obstacles at the Wainfleet Fall Fair.

■ **ACCESSIBILITY:** New exhibit focuses on touch, description

# Take a tactile tour of the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum

DAVE JOHNSON  
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — The blind, and those with limited vision, can take a tactile tour of Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum later on this October, said the museum's assistant curator.

Michelle Mason said Diane

Gallinger, of Jordan Heritage Resources, will be using description and tactile objects as part of an interpretive technique.

The museum was made more accessible earlier this year with a new lobby area and access ramp to allow those in wheelchairs access and Mason said the tours,

which can accommodate four people, is part of increasing accessibility for all patrons.

"The touch tour of (the exhibit) Dress to Impress - A Century of Fashion will take about two hours."

Mason said Gallinger has been collecting original women's costumes for more than 20 years and her col-

lection includes 300 gowns and accessories dating from 1775 to 1914. It is frequently used for training workshops, public lectures and travelling museum exhibits.

The tactile tour takes place on Sunday, Oct. 21 at the museum, 286 King St.

Mason said museum archivist Michelle Vosburgh will be

offering a cemetery tour on Saturday, Oct. 20 starting at 1 p.m.

"It's a historical tour of the cemetery. Michelle will talk about various people in the cemetery, like someone who died of cholera and then she'll talk about the cholera epidemic in the region at time. She found interesting

stories about people in the cemetery."

The tour, the third the museum has done, will take place at the Overholt Cemetery in Bethel and the tour is \$5 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the museum or the L.R. Wilson Heritage Research Archives next door.

## ■ HEALTH CARE

# Health minister won't rush Smith recommendations

ALLAN BENNER  
InPort News Staff

**WELLAND** — Deb Matthews has no plans of rushing through Kevin Smith's recommendations for restructuring Niagara Health System.

In an exclusive interview with *InPort News*, Ontario's health minister said last Friday she's "going to take the time to get it right."

"Obviously there are some very important decision points there," she said. "I will take the time that these recommendations deserve. I'm not setting a timeline for myself, but I am giving very serious consideration to each of these recommendations."

Some of those recommendations released in the NHS supervisor's final report could cost a significant price tag — such as a new \$78.8-million hospital for south Niagara.

"There's no question we're operating in a time of real fiscal challenges. All of (Smith's) recommendations will be considered very seriously but within the context in which we live," Matthews said. "(Smith) has given us some very good advice, but it's a while out there before any decision is going to be made on the capital side."

Some of Smith's recommendations have been hard for people within the community to swallow.

Welland MPP Cindy Forster said she doesn't feel particularly worried about consolidating services like pediatrics, obstetrics and mental health in St. Catharines until a new hospital is built.

"There are going to be huge negative impacts on the remaining programs and services in Welland and Niagara Falls," the NDPer said. "And that's certainly not something that I support, nor does my party."

While supporting many of the recommendations in Smith's report, Conservative health-care critic Christine Elliott said south Niagara residents "naturally" expect "a lot" about whether or not the government really has a plan to create a coherent system within NHS."

"I think a lot of their concerns are very real because they've seen this government promise a lot of things and haven't seen it materialize," she said.

Although Smith's final report recommends relocating pediatrics and obstetrics programs to the new south Niagara hospital when it's built, Elliott wondered what happens if the new hospital never becomes a reality "and

you're left without those services in the local community."

Matthews said consolidating those programs is "one recommendation that I know people, particularly in south Niagara, are anxiously awaiting (for a decision to be made), but I'm going to take the time it deserves."

"I can tell you though, that I will

always make decisions based on what's best for patients," Matthews said.

Although Smith recommended building a new hospital at the intersection of Lyons Creek Rd. and the QEW, Matthews said she hasn't made any decisions regarding a location.

"There's a lot that has to happen before a decision to move forward on a new hospital can be made," she said.

"The most important thing that can happen now is that the NHS continues to develop a culture of patient-centred care. I think we've come so far in a short period of time, but there's more work ahead before that is a decision that will be made."

[allan.benner@sunmedia.ca](mailto:allan.benner@sunmedia.ca)

## HOSPITAL NOTES

■ Health Minister Deb Matthews said Smith, in his final report, "demonstrated that he really went there and listened very, very carefully to the community and the staff at NHS" as well as experts across the province. "I think he's done an outstanding job of really listening and putting forward some very thoughtful recommendations on how we move forward on how we make NHS as great as it possibly can be."

■ Matthews said Smith will remain at the helm of the NHS for the coming months. "There's good work underway but we need that really solid foundation in place, and I think the supervisor can continue the work he's doing on that front as we move to get a new board in place, the governance in place and the senior leadership in place."

■ Welland MPP Cindy Forster's office conducted a survey a few months ago asking constituents about any concerns they have with hospital care in the area. "Residents of Welland riding, which is south Niagara ... clearly said they wanted their community hospital services to remain here," Forster said. "That was the message."



ANTONELLA ARTUSO QMI Agency  
Ontario Health Minister Deb Matthews has no plans to rush through Kevin Smith's health recommendations.

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■ HOSPITALS: NHS supervisor to oversee administrative overhaul

# No 'drop-dead date' for Smith's tenure

RAY SPITERI  
QMI Agency Niagara

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NIAGARA FALLS — Kevin Smith has more work to do.

After filling his final recommendations last week to the Ontario government on how he feels health care should move forward in Niagara, the hospital supervisor will now oversee some important administrative decisions.

It means he won't be going anywhere for the next 18 months at least.

"There's no drop-dead date," Smith said when asked when his appointment as supervisor of the Niagara Health System will come to an end.

The province appointed Smith, who is also the president and chief executive officer of St. Joseph's Health System in Hamilton, as NHS supervisor in August 2011. The appointment was intended to fix a lack of public confidence in the NHS and steer the local hospital system in a new administrative and service-delivery direction. His appointment effectively replaced the previous board of directors. As a supervisor, Smith assumed the powers the board previously held.

Smith originally expected to oversee the hospital system for about nine months before moving on. But circumstances have changed, including his recommendation of a new south Niagara hospital around the QEW and Lyons Creek Rd. to replace aging facilities in Niagara Falls, Fort Erie, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Welland and Port Colborne.

The hospital foundation, along with several others, formed a final report sent to Ontario Health Minister Deb Matthews. Matthews is reviewing the report. The government will decide what, if any, of the recommendations

will be implemented.

"I want to thank Dr. Kevin Smith for the tremendous work he has done to put NHS on the right track and to strengthen health care in Niagara," Matthews said in an e-mail statement.

"He's done an exceptional job at implementing the necessary measures to restore public confidence in the local hospital system."

Matthews suggested Smith's influence could remain over the NHS even after a new CEO and new board are in place.

"We know that there is more to do. That's why I've asked that Dr. Smith remain as supervisor until he is of the opinion that a culture is in place that can move forward without his leadership. He will continue to create a well-governed and well-managed hospital system with high community support and workplace satisfaction."

Smith will oversee the creation of a community-based advisory committee to select a new NHS board of directors. He said skill, ability and experience will be key in selecting new members, as will geography to ensure members represent both urban and rural communities.

Smith said he expects to have the nominating committee up and running in the next two or three weeks.

National searches will be done to recruit a CEO and vice-president, medical/chief of staff for the NHS.

A patient advisory committee is also planned to "ensure the continued evolution of patient- and family-centred care."

"If I had my druthers, (the process would be wrapped up by) very early in the new year, January or February," said Smith.

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Twitter: @RaySpiteri



JULIE JOCSAK Standard Staff  
Dr. Kevin Smith, NHS supervisor, announced his recommendations for the NHS at the Welland Hospital on May 12, 2012.

## ■ ENVIRONMENT

# Surfers scrub Lake Erie beaches

InPort News Staff

**PORT COLBORNE** — Tim Hortons lids and cups, aluminium beer cans, plastic water bottles and a lot of other garbage was collected at two different beaches by two different surf clubs recently.

Members of both Niagara-on-the-Lake and Wyldewood surf clubs took to beaches in Fort Erie and Port Colborne as part of the Great

Canadian Shoreline Cleanup this past Saturday.

Niagara-on-the-Lake club members started their cleanup at the beach and shoreline around the Palmwood Hotel and municipal boat launch in Fort Erie in the morning, before joining their Wyldewood club counterparts at Pleasant Beach in Port Colborne in the afternoon.

see CLEANUP | page 14



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo  
Above, and upper right: Members of both Niagara-on-the-Lake and Wyldewood Surf clubs take to beaches in Fort Erie and Port Colborne as part of the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup this past Saturday. Between the two beaches, 25 bags of garbage and recyclable material was collected.



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## CLEANUP

## 25 bags of refuse removed from beaches

FROM PAGE 13

George Holmes, of the Niagara-on-the-Lake club, said items like food wrappers, spoons, cups, Tim Hortons cups and lids, beverage bottles and bags, were collected at the Palmwood location.

In the right conditions, surfers can be found surfing off of the Palmwood throughout the year. A surf contest was held there earlier this year as well.

Over at Pleasant Beach, there were 20 Wyldewood club members who came out

to take part in the cleanup, which stretched from the property line at Sherston Shores to Pleasant Beach.

Wyldewood club member Marty Parr said the club has been taking part in beach cleanups since the late '90s. Pleasant Beach is another

area surfers can be found during the right conditions and the Wyldewood club is the oldest on the Great Lakes. Between the two beaches, the two men said 25 bags of garbage and recyclable material was collected.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Club members have been taking part in beach cleanups for over a decade.



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■ **WAINFLEET:** Signs called for after fatal accident

# Slow-moving vehicle signs installed

DAVE JOHNSON  
InPort News Staff

**WAINFLEET** — Signs warning of slow-moving farm vehicles on regional roads in the township were installed just in time for the fall harvest season, said Mayor April Jeffs.

"The signs went up two weeks ago," she said.

The signs were requested by the township council after a fatal accident last year on Forks Rd., not far down the road from Ald. Richard Dykstra's home.

On Nov. 1, 2011, a 38-year-old Selkirk, Ont., woman

died when her van collided with the rear end of a combine on Forks Rd. Both vehicles were travelling westbound at the time of the collision, which was shortly after 7 p.m. Two boys in the van, aged 10 and 13, were injured, as was the driver of the combine, a 49-year-old

Wainfleet man.

Dykstra, a farmer, made the request for signs on Forks Rd. and others under the region's control.

"The signs went up on Forks Rd. near the 2nd Diner at Beckert's Bridge and at Chambers Corners ... all entrance points to Wainfleet,"

the mayor said.

She said the signs are very eye-catching and she noticed them right away. The signs are yellow with some orange and a picture of a tractor on them.

The mayor said the signs are more for people who are traveling through Wainfleet

than residents, who are aware of and used to slow-moving farm vehicles. The signs will be there when vehicles will be on the main roads, and back roads as well, during the spring planting and fall harvest season, though they could be traveling at any time of year.

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■ SECURITY: Guards worked weekends

# Augustine Beach was quiet this summer

DAVE JOHNSON  
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — A security guard stationed at the entrance to Augustine Beach seemed to have deterred illegal activities, such as drinking, this past summer, Mayor April Jeffs said.

The guard — there were two that split duties over the course of the summer

— started on the May long weekend and wrapped up on Labour Day.

"The two guards alternated every other weekend and were on duty from Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 a.m. and on holiday Mondays. They did miss a day or two here and there because of the weather."

The mayor went to the beach, which is in the Long

Beach area of the township, to introduce herself and get a feel for how things were going. She said the guard she met that day said he'd noticed some people come to the beach with coolers, but walk away when they saw him.

"We did have some issues with the kids sneaking in (with coolers) through other laneways, which are private. But overall, it was quieter on

the beach this year in terms of the beach," she said.

Jeffs added area residents also told her the beach was quiet this summer as well and added they felt there may be a need for more signage, to enforce the fact there is zero tolerance for drinking and other illegal activities on the beach.

Families, she said, seemed

to gravitate toward the regional beach farther down Lakeshore Rd. because of easier parking. Parking in the Augustine Beach area is very limited.

"Augustine Beach has been known as more of a party beach," the mayor said, as another reason why families stayed away from it. She hopes families will come back to the beach next summer.

As to whether the guard(s), from Regional Protection Security Services of Port Colborne, will be back next summer, Jeffs said that would probably be determined by staff and council. The cost would also have to be added into the 2013 municipal budget.

"I anticipate there'd be support for it... it only cost us \$2,000 for the summer," she said.

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■ MAILBOXES

# Rural assessment leaves some scratching heads

FROM PAGE 17

The letter, which was sent to local media as well as Welland MP Malcolm Allen, Mayor Vance Badaway and Ward 4 Coun. Barb Butters, said the recent rural assessment will take us from the safety of our driveways on the roadway to retrieve our mail. Your location is at the road's edge, south of our driveways and in the dark, poses a danger to all of us, including your carrier."

Phillips said he's had some contact with Canada Post representatives.

"We've basically more or less shrugged off. They say that's it. That's the way it's going to be," he said.

Allen visited the Phillips' home last Friday afternoon.

"There is a safety component to all of these mailboxes that were on the bends of roadways with speed limits of 70 km/h or 80 km/h in locations where you can't pull over," he said. "I think in most cases where those were addressed, folks understood that and said, 'That's reasonable, you're right.'"

Allen said he hasn't had a single complaint from people who have been asked to move mailboxes further away from the road.

But in this case, Phillips said Canada Post is asking him to move his mailbox closer to the road.

And that, Allen said, "defies logic."

"When safety is your prime motive, this defies all logic."

[allan.benner@sunmedia.ca](mailto:allan.benner@sunmedia.ca)



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## ■ GRADE NINE STUDENTS BREAK OUT THE OARS



Supplied photo

The Grade 9 student body from Port Colborne High School gathered at the South Niagara Rowing Club on Thursday, Sept. 13 to begin the 2012-13 school year swimmingly. Students had the opportunity to experience a number of aspects of team rowing throughout the day including on land erg training, shoreline training and full out rowing. Port High thanked South Niagara Rowing Club who generously donated their coaching staff, equipment and time to make this day a success.



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**"higher costs, and fewer choices."**  
- Iain Grant, Telecommunications Analyst, *Montreal Gazette*, August 8, 2012

**"surprised that Bell thinks it can  
get away with this"**  
- Steve Faguy, freelance journalist

**"unprecedented concentration of  
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- Michael Geist, *Ottawa Citizen*, August 7, 2012

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Bell Canada, which already owns CTV and TSN - wants to buy yet another competitor, Astral Media Inc., the company that provides HBO Canada, The Movie Network, Viewers Choice, and many other popular TV channels. The new giant company would own a staggering 79 TV channels. If you don't think one giant company should have a lock on so much of Canada's TV market, then make your voice heard. Tell Ottawa to say no to the acquisition of Astral Media Inc. by Bell Canada, and yes to healthy competition.

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# Leaf Source

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**"It works! I'll take another two bottles please!"**

This coming from a customer who had tried every other natural remedy under the sun in the past few years to take away her pain. Ian, the owner of The Healthy Cupboard couldn't believe his ears. He had finally found the perfect product to stop his customer's miseries. This is what every owner of a health food store dreams about, a natural product that receives so many outstanding testimonials on such a wide variety of health issues. "I had recommended a new product called LeafSource, which recently started carrying. We have had tremendous success with this product, and almost everyone we have recommended it to over the last few months has come back and thanked us over and over again" said Ian. Before trying LeafSource, the woman had complained about her ongoing joint pain and was at her wit's end. Although she had experienced some relief through the numerous natural remedies she had tried over the years, the pain would never fully go away. "She returned to my store, in tears, less than one week after buying LeafSource. I didn't know what to make of this woman standing in front of me crying, until she told me that within a few days of taking LeafSource her pain started to disappear and within a week it was completely gone - as if it was never there." Ian goes on, "This coming from a woman whose painful joints and ongoing sciatica were so bad just one week earlier, that the pain was unbearable but now has completely subsided." By now you are probably wondering what is LeafSource and why is it so effective? LeafSource is a 100% natural product derived from a proprietary organic mineral composite with over ten years of university research. LeafSource helps regulate the inflammatory process and the body's ability to repair itself. The vast majority (70 - 80%) of the population over the age of 50 have joint problems — often called osteoarthritis. This is due to the natural (or unnatural) wear and tear on joint tissue that develops through the aging process. With joint inflammation, movement is limited and pain can be constant. LeafSource seems to have the ability to help people get their mobility and zest for life

back. Millions of people seek treatment for their joint and inflammation problems by resorting to expensive, toxic prescription drugs (i.e. NSAIDs) with multiple side effects. These range from nausea and vomiting to serious intestinal disorders (bleeding, gas, pain) and even kidney and liver failure. Isn't that too large a price to pay for a little pain relief? LeafSource is a safe alternative to these destructive anti-inflammatory drugs that cause more problems than they solve. There are absolutely no side effects and it doesn't interfere with any other medications. Controlled experiments and observations have revealed that LeafSource is a potent anti-inflammatory that has been shown to bring a reduction to inflammation and pain within a few days. People notice great results in terms of more energy and less pain by taking anywhere from 2 to 6 capsules/day. Typical maintenance is usually 1 capsule twice daily. This product gets results! LeafSource is scientifically validated through more than 10 years of research at 4 universities, including the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Mercer University. Aside from its incredible anti-inflammatory and pain reducing ability, it has also been shown to improve the performance of your daily nutrition and vitamin programs. It helps increase the absorption of vital nutrients, which in turn helps these nutrients work better. Better absorption = better results! It's almost as if they have become supercharged! LeafSource has also been shown to help enhance energy levels, improve intestinal health, strengthen hair, skin and nails and improve immune function. To see someone go from intense pain to a new lease on life within a week is truly incredible. Imagine being able to move freely without pain. Who wouldn't want to get out of bed in the morning with more energy? It's amazing how much of this stuff we take for granted, until it's gone! Ian adds, "I often recommend that LeafSource be taken with other natural joint products in order to help them work better and provide even faster relief. One of the things I hear most often from people who have tried LeafSource is they just plain feel better, have more energy and less pain. We're so confident, we guarantee LeafSource 100%! That alone should be enough to try this incredible product."



**Tanya and Ian Birrell**  
Owners of  
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